



**School of the Arts Commencement
Academy Summer Reading Program**

45 Prince Street
Rochester NY 14607

A Letter to Parents/Guardians and Students

Dear Parents/Guardians and Incoming Tenth graders:

This letter outlines the expectations for the Summer Reading Program for 2010. **All students are expected to complete the summer reading assignment REGARDLESS of the course in which they are enrolled.**

Students are required to read 2 novels:

- Select two novels from the book list provided
- The novels are categorized according to level of difficulty.
- Students are encouraged to take notes as they read the novels because they will be able to use them when they write their essay.

In September...

- Students will be completing an in class critical lens essay beginning on September 13th, that will serve as a writing baseline for teachers.
- Students may use any notes that they have taken on the novels that they read over the summer.

Students are responsible for obtaining the novels from a public library or retail bookseller.

Although all the novels in this summer reading program are pre-approved by a panel of teachers, parents, and administrators, please be aware that some novels may contain mature themes or scenes. It is strongly recommended that you consider reading the novels along with your child to ensure proper interpretation of the content of these novels. This interaction can ensure greater retention of the main ideas and characters of the novels.

Thank you for your support of the **SOTA Summer Reading Program!**

Sincerely,

The SOTA English Department



Summer Reading List for 10th Grade

TITLE OF NOVEL	AUTHOR OF NOVEL	DESCRIPTION OF NOVEL
<u>Middle Passage</u>	Charles Johnson	A savage parable of the black experience in America, Johnson's picaresque novel begins in 1830 when Rutherford Calhoun, a newly freed Illinois slave eking out a living as a petty thief in New Orleans, hops aboard a square-rigger to evade the prim Boston schoolteacher who wants to marry him. But the Republic, no riverboat, turns out to be a slave clipper bound for Africa.
<u>Hunger Games Trilogy</u> (Any novel from the trilogy)	Suzanne Collins	<i>The Hunger Games</i> trilogy is a series of young adult fiction novels by author Suzanne Collins. The story takes place in a post-apocalyptic world called Panem, where teens are chosen in a "lottery" each year to compete in the Hunger Games, which is a televised fight to the death.
<u>Perks of Being a Wallflower</u>	Stephen Chbosky	This is the story of what it's like to grow up in high school. More intimate than a diary, Charlie's letters are singular and unique, hilarious and devastating. We may not know where he lives. We may not know to whom he is writing. All we know is the world he shares.
<u>The Alchemist</u>	Paulo Coelho	This story, dazzling in its simplicity and wisdom, is about an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of treasure buried in the Pyramids. Along the way he meets a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself king, and an Alchemist, all of whom point Santiago in the direction of his quest.